

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :

Kaoru SUGITA, :
Yoshihiro TAJIMA, : **AN INTERNAL CHILL CASTING**
Masayuki YASUDA, : **METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING**
Tetsuo ISHIKAWA, : **A CAST PRODUCT CONTAINING**
Masahide HAMADA : **A PIPE THEREIN**
and Yoshiki MATSUZAKI :

Serial No. Not Yet Assigned :

Filed Concurrently Herewith :

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

January 9, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 6, line 27, delete "at" (second occurrence).

Page 8, line 18, change "is" to read --it--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 7, 9 and 10 and add new claims 11-16 as follows:

7. (Amended) The method defined in Claim 1, wherein the controlling member has a surface layer which endures a high-temperature atmosphere caused by pouring the molten aluminum alloy, wherein the surface layer is comprised of elements or compounds selected from the group consisting of Ti, TiN, TiC, CrN and BN.

9. (Amended) The method defined in [Claims 1 or 8] Claim 1, wherein compressed gas is supplied to the pipe during pouring of the molten aluminum alloy.

10. (Amended) The method defined in [Claims 1 or 8] Claim 1, wherein a plug is attached to an open end of the pipe.

Add following claims 11-16:

--11. The method defined in Claim 8, wherein compressed gas is supplied to the pipe during pouring of the molten aluminum alloy.

12. The method defined in Claim 9, wherein the compressed gas is a cool gas.

13. The method defined in Claim 12, wherein the cool gas is an inert gas.

14. The method defined in Claim 11, wherein the compressed gas is a cool gas.

15. The method defined in Claim 14, wherein the cool gas is an inert gas.

16. The method defined in Claim 8, wherein a plug is attached to an open end of the pipe.--

REMARKS

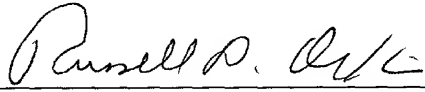
Amendments have been made to the specification to bring the application into conformance with standard United States Patent practice.

Claims 7, 9 and 10 have been amended and new claims 11-16 have been added to eliminate the multiple dependencies, to bring the claims into conformance with standard United States Patent practice and to further define the invention.

Examination and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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